

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE

March 28, 2006

WHEREAS, the United States Government has declared April as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" and the Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women (LACAAW) has declared April 19, 2006 as "Denim Day" in Los Angeles County; and

WHEREAS, both events are intended to draw attention to the fact that rape and sexual assault remains a serious issue in our society and, injurious attitudes about rape and sexual assault allow these crimes to persist and allow victim/survivors to be re-victimized; and

WHEREAS, "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" and "Denim Day" were also instituted to call attention to false impressions and mis-information about rape and sexual assault, and the problem that many in society remain disturbingly uninformed with respect to issues of assault and forcible rape and the importance of this issue is underlined by statistics indicating that the crime of rape increased by 1.4% despite a decrease in other forms of violent crime (Preliminary Uniform Crime Report, Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2004), the annual cost of rape--\$127 billion—dwarving that of larceny, murder, or burglary (U.S. Department of Justice, Victim Cost & Consequences: A New Look .(1996), approximately 1-in-6 women are raped during their lifetime (US Dept. of Justice, 2000), and youths under 18 account for about 44% of all reported rapes (Sex Offenders and Offenses, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 1997); and

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MOTION

MOLINA	_____
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KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____

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WHEREAS, with proper education on the matter, there is compelling evidence that we can be successful in reducing incidents of this alarming and psychologically damaging crime; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors strongly support the efforts of LACAAW to educate persons in our community about the true impact of rape and sexual assault in Southern California.

NOW, THEREFORE I MOVE that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim the month of April 2006 as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month," designates April 19, 2006 as "Denim Day," and urges everyone to wear jeans and attend Denim Day observances in their area on April 19, 2006 to help communicate the message that there is "no excuse and never an invitation to rape." ; and

I FURTHER MOVE that the Board instruct the Auditor-Controller's office to work with the Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women (LACAAW) Committee Chair to arrange the printing of DENIM DAY IN L.A. information on **employee checks stubs for APRIL 2006** asking County employees to support DENIM DAY IN L.A. by wearing jeans on April 19, 2006 to help communicate the message that there is "no excuse and never an invitation to rape".

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